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MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

Albert F. Root, Commissioner — M. Joe Miller, Chairman and Executive Director — J. J. Smith, Commissioner

Mitchell Building — P. O. Box 1728 — Helena, Montana

FL-95 — MARCH 15, 1951

Employment in February Follows Seasonal Trends

Industrial employment in Montana as of February 15 maintained the annual trend by outnumbering that of February, 1950, by more than 10,000, and also followed the seasonal trend by reaching the low spot of recent months, about 2,000 below January totals, according to preliminary estimates by the Commission in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

Exceeds Last Year by 10,500

Total of this employment, which is exclusive of agricultural hiring, shows 142,700 on the payrolls at mid-February, as compared with 132,200 a year before. This indicates continuance of the steady growth in employed numbers, as compared with the same month of the previous year, which began last June and has progressed from a 2,600 advance at that time to 10,500 in February. At the same time, it agrees with the annual seasonal fluctuation which sets February apart as the month of lowest total employment in the year.

Less Layoffs Than in 1950

Seasonal interruption to employment is shown to have been less severe this year than a year ago. The February figures are 14,000 below the peak reached last September, while the February figures in 1950 were 19,000 below the high point of the preceding summer. This tends to confirm the generally accepted statement that seasonal layoffs this winter have been less drastic than those in the winter of 1950.

Manufacturing Uses 1,200 More

Manufacturing industries in Montana were employing 1,200 more workers this February than in February, 1950. Production of lumber was the prime factor in this increase, making a net gain of 2,200, and this in turn resulted from more favorable weather conditions and from concerted planning within that industry to avert heavy unemployment. Processing of metals and of food products fell short of their total employment of the preceding February.

Metal Mining Gains 1,400

Employment in metal mining gained 1,400 over last February, the estimates show, reflecting the expansion begun early in 1950. Mining employment had then dwindled to its lowest point in several years. Extent of market demand and the price level has been a contributing factor, along with substantial wage increases, in accomplishing this gain. Coal mining also shows a margin of 600 over the employment for February of 1950, a paper gain since coal mining was involved in work

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AVAILABLE LABOR SUPPLY ONE-THIRD LESS THAN YEAR AGO; SHORTAGE THREATENED

Labor supply in Montana is one-third less than it was a year ago. On the normal annual pattern the labor reserve at this time is at the high point for the entire year. Labor demand for manning seasonal industrial activity and for expanding crews which are at minimum through the winter months will make annual inroads upon this reserve supply.

Expanded Construction Demand Anticipated

Prospects are that labor demand will be greater this year than last, particularly from construction contractors and from metal mining and lumber production centers. Other elements of that demand will be at least equal to its 1950 volume. At the same time the Montana reserve is subject to greater out-migration and lesser in-migration than during previous years, due to such factors as wages, stepped up production for military reasons, and an active recruitment in other labor markets of the country.

No Longer a Labor Supply State

All of this adds up to the fact that Montana is not now a labor supply state—its own demands will require added supply instead of furnishing workers to other areas. On the basis of past seasonal experience the present labor reserve of 12,000 applicants in Montana will be absorbed before the midsummer peak of employment is reached.

Other Labor Sources to Be Tapped

Stringent readjustments in the way of utilizing all other labor sources will be required. This could include employment of women to a greater degree, re-call of retired and semi-retired workers to active status, acceptance of youths in work for which they can qualify, both physically and legally, and provision for attracting into the labor market other potential workers not now listed.

Down 6,500 From Year Ago

Last year at this time there were 18,850 applicants for work in employment service files of the state. Now the number is 12,350. Last year the reserve was drawn down to a mere 3,000 in September, practically an irreducible minimum. The same hiring this year would change that limited remnant into a deficit of 3,000. Last year there was substantial in-migration, a movement which will likely be curtailed now because the worker can get work at good wages right at home, without migrating.

Higher Percentage Are Women

Out of the 18,850 active jobseekers a year ago 19 per cent or 3,665 were women. Out of 12,350 applicants now 24 per cent, or 2,935 are women. On that basis there were 15,200 men seeking jobs in the state then, and only 9,400 now.

Heavy Employment Demands Foreseen

Heavy employment demands for the spring and summer season range all the way from construction to agriculture. The former includes the two big government dams for production of power and for irrigation purposes, establishment of new plants for production of aluminum from bauxite and for extraction of phosphates, one or more smelters for reduction of chromium ore, and governmental undertakings of an undisclosed nature. Agricultural labor is expected to develop the use of Indian labor resident in the state and require importation of hand labor to a greater degree than last year.

Placements and Job Orders Increase

Employment service statistics for February indicate more hiring during that month than in February, 1950, evidenced by placement of 1,638 jobseekers as compared with 1,092 a year ago. Employer orders for workers bore out the comparison, 1,954 to 1,335. New applicants for work this February numbered 2,987, only slightly below the 3,142 of a year ago.

Hungry Horse Expansion Soon

Expansion of the minimum winter crew on Hungry Horse operations near Kalispell will begin during the latter half of March. Ample supply is available in adjacent offices and call-backs, for early stages. Mustering of full crew of approximately 2,500 may require normal recruitment processes.

Present operations confined to spillway tunnel and powerhouse construction. Cement pouring on dam itself will resume when weather is safely above the temperature requirements. Clearing operations are held up pending melting of heavy snow cover in the reservoir area.

Priorities on materials already announced give assurance that steel, concrete and other required supplies are to be channeled to this project to enable early completion and delivery of electric current.

Canyon Ferry Awaits Mild Weather

Hiring for the Canyon Ferry dam construction near Helena was scheduled to begin on moderate scale March 5, but was deferred because of a period of severe

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Along the Hiring Line --- Field Summary March 1

Anaconda—(Active file 163; 56 women, 32 veterans) Slow progress in construction as result of variable weather, which makes for intermittent employment. Shortage of steel holds up state building at Galen. Smelter turnover low, will gain momentum with seasonal migration of workers to outdoor summer work in construction and on farms.

Billings—(Active file 1,685; 359 women, 428 veterans; 313 men and 74 women over 50) Building material shortages, in sheetrock, plumbing equipment, electrical supplies and steel, restricted construction hiring in February. Both retail and wholesale trade expanded crews. Coal mines slowing as winter demand for fuel wanes, some mines down to one day a week, others face shutdown April 1 until fall demand warrants resumption. Some idle miners migrating to armament job-centers.

Bozeman—(Active file 275; 74 women, 71 veterans) Some employers restrict new hires to men above age 25. Construction hiring slow through February, intermittent cold and snow. Weather permitting, four construction outfits will re-call 75 employees to duty by March 15. Agricultural demand will develop at same time.

Butte—(Active file 582; 267 women, 58 veterans) Construction called 65 employees back to work in February, other outfits preparing to resume in March; material shortages causing concern. Recruitment of hard-rock miners progressing actively in face of continuing demand. Commission salesmen only other active demand until weather permits resumption of construction work after winter seasonal layoff.

Cut Bank—(Active file 231; 55 women, 55 veterans) Hiring in February called for replacements in construction and trade, stock feeders on farms. No large construction projects in sight, government installation to finish by April 1. Surplus of oil field workers, rough carpenters and unskilled labor in file.

Dillon—(Active file 95; 33 women, 25 veterans) Demand for livestock feeders developed in February, seasonal, but further force reductions occurred in layoff of 12 construction workers, 10 gold miners, six barmen. Lambing crews will be in demand through March.

Forsyth—(Active file 87; 17 women, 19 veterans) Construction slowed through February by combination of material shortage, economic restriction, and adverse weather. One road project to open in March. Railroads employing replacements for section and extra gangs during March. Transients scarce, out-migration depletes local labor supply.

Fort Benton—(Active file 34; 8 women, 7 veterans) Construction employment continued intermittently through February as weather permitted. Present surplus of applicants will be absorbed as weather moderates, with prospect of shortages developing in April.

Glasgow—(Active file 403; 97 women, 107 veterans; 64 men and 12 women over 45) Low demand through February; will expand as spillway contract at Fort Peck gets under way in March and power house bottleneck of steel work is caught up. Government job at Opheim using 40 men in construction, will expand in March. Clerical hiring has been active through February. Agricultural demand is low, stock feeding the principal item.

Glendive—(Active file 136; 31 women, 42 veterans; 47 applicants over 45, 10 below 21) New hiring in February limited both by weather and material shortage. Construction call-backs beginning on REA lines, elevator construction and two bridges. Power line contract let for 92 mile job. Location of chromium smelter here will call for 200 unit housing project.

Great Falls—(Active file 1,312; 414 14 women, 314 veterans) Hiring slowed by unsettled weather through February. Activity in wholesale and retail trade employment recovered from the January low; railroads are preparing for seasonal resumption of track maintenance work and heavy traffic is strengthening demand for workers in other railroad operations. Farm hiring started late in February, should become active in demand during March.

Hamilton—(Active file 589; 150 women, 158 veterans) About 80 sawmill and woods workers returned to work in February; building operations slowed up, releasing about 30 men, and retail trade likewise terminated ten or fifteen because of slow business. Shortage of wire contributes to lethargy in building power line.

Havre—(Active file 411; 67 women, 135 veterans) Employment slow at present but outlook good, dependent upon moderation of weather. Two small construction projects ready to start; railroad track crews will be organized about April 1.

Helena—(Active file 592; 118 women, 180 veterans) Timber and smelter employment continued through February at high January level, with few replacements. Favorable weather three weeks of February renewed demands which halted again with advent of severe weather in March. Farm demand dormant. Local supply ample for present though only 60 per cent of year ago figure. Canyon Ferry demand postponed into late March, awaiting milder weather.

Kalispell—(Active file 1,934; 358 women, 555 veterans) Labor demand in lumber industry above seasonal normal, due to continued operation of most sawmills and addition of night shift at one plant. Logging roads threaten annual break-up and spring layoff period. Labor supply ample for next two months, except call for 15 survey aides. Hungry Horse demand awaits more favorable weather. Aluminum plant not yet contracted, test hole drilling continues; railroad siding half completed to site.

Lewistown—(Active file 291; 80 women, 82 veterans) Out-migration tending to increase because of assertedly low wage scales. Turnover in active jobs at low level in February and replacements lagged. Demand below the normal for this season.

Libby—(Active file 180; 47 women, 41 veterans; 11 veterans over 50) Labor demand awaits end of spring break-up period. One logging crew laid off, partly absorbed temporarily in the mill. Lumber employment at about 800 level, 10 percent below peak, zonolite employment near capacity. All building activity dormant.

Livingston—(Active file 349; 109 women, 81 veterans) Labor demand slow but starting to build up at end of month. Railroad increased shop crews and will be hiring extra gangs soon. Inquiries about distant jobs on increase; irregular recruitment methods causing unrest.

Malta—(Active file 165; 42 women, 34 veterans) Hospital nearly complete, release of workers has begun. Trade hiring more active in February after January slump. Construction and farming employment awaits mild weather.

Miles City—(Active file 284; 43 women, 98 veterans; 44 men, 4 women over 50) Construction resumed in February on commercial building and re-building of burned garage; plywood only building item reported short. Railroad operating crews called back; shortage of mechanics in shops. Farm orders already being received, hiring scheduled for March.

Missoula—(Active file 1,082; 291 women, 300 veterans) Out-migration increased in February. About 325 carpenters affected by negotiations for increased hourly wage, which reached settlement early in March. Spring break-up of roads, and load limits, slowing employment in logging circles. Labor supply ample for 60 days.

Polson—(Active file 385; 56 women, 85 veterans) Lumber mill closed in February because of ice; re-opened last of month calling back 35 men. Inside construction work continues; farm demand beginning to be felt, most hiring deferred until March.

Shelby—(Active file 214; 45 women, 65 veterans; 60 men, 1 woman over 45) Construction jobs resumed in February on minor scale, demand light. Employment in retail trade fluctuating, because of unsettled weather and uncertain demand for goods. Oil field work, construction jobs, and farm hiring all expected to begin in March, local labor supply will scarcely last until May.

Sidney—(Active file 397; 68 women, 99 veterans) Labor market static through February; surplus of clerical, sales, service, farm hands, truck drivers and unskilled labor, with sprinkling of carpenters and other building mechanics. Not much hiring in sight until April, when supply will vanish rapidly, may be short in May.

Thompson Falls—(Active file 263; 30 women, 57 veterans) Lumbering operations temporarily curtailed by car shortage and soft roads during February. Road condition may interrupt employment during March. Two construction jobs operating with reduced crews. Demand expected to trend upward in March and April.

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FOUR YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
1948	134.4	132.0	133.2	137.1	140.6	145.8	148.9	150.3	151.4	149.6	149.4	147.7	143.4
1949	137.1	135.5	137.7	144.0	147.3	151.0	150.0	150.1	149.8	148.2	146.1	143.3	145.0
1950	133.2	132.2	135.2	142.1	147.3	153.6	154.4	155.9	156.8	154.5	152.6	149.9	147.3
1951	144.7	142.7											

Employment in February Follows Seasonal Trends

(Continued from Page 1)

stoppages and wage difficulties a year ago. Processing of petroleum and natural gas employed 100 more this year than last.

Construction 2,000 Above Last Year

Contract construction on buildings, dams, highways, and attendant special trade contracts show 2,000 more on the payrolls this February than last. This work is another of the highly seasonal factors in Montana employment and its difference this year reflects directly into the decreased volume of unemployment.

Trade Employment Heads List

Wholesale and retail trade expanded their February employment by 2,100 above that of a year before, wholesale accounting for 300 and retail for the balance. Gains were indicated in numbers employed by general merchants, food and liquor stores, restaurants, automobile filling stations, and miscellaneous retail establishments.

Gains in Other Industrial Groups

All other major groups of employers showed more employment in February, 1951, than in February, 1950. Transportation was up 900, of which 500 was on railroads and 400 in utilities. Finance and real estate showed an increase of 300, consistent with its gradual and uninterrupted payroll development. Service industries had 1,100 more employees this February than last. Government totals are up 800, of which 300 is federal and 500 is local and state.

Shrinks 2,000 From January

Viewing the February figures in their relation to those of January, increased employment is shown by metal processing industries, by metal mining, and in wholesale trade. Decreases occurred in manufacturing, with food processing down 1,000 due to completion of the sugar refinery season about mid-January. All three divisions of contract construction decreased from January, by a total of 800. This reflected the completion of the lay-off cycle as weather conditions became less favorable. Transportation by bus and truck required 100 fewer employees, retail trade 200 less, and service industries were 100 down.

ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	Employment in Thousands			% Change (4)	
	Feb. 1951 (2)	Jan. 1951 (3)	Feb. 1950	Jan. 51 to Feb. 51	Feb. 50 to Feb. 51
Total nonagricultural industries	142.7	144.7	132.2	—1.4	8.0
Total manufacturing	16.9	17.8	15.7	—5.4	7.5
Durable goods	10.6	10.5	8.7	0.2	21.0
Lumber and timber products	5.7	5.7	3.5	0.6	61.9
Primary metals	3.9	3.8	4.3	1.8	—9.7
Other (5)	1.0	1.0	.9	—1.5	9.3
Nondurable goods	6.3	7.3	7.0	—13.4	—9.3
Food and kindred products	3.2	4.3	3.7	—23.8	—12.6
Printing and publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.1	3.4
Other (6)	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.3	—12.8
Total mining	11.2	11.2	9.1	0.6	24.2
Metal mining	8.8	8.7	7.4	1.1	18.5
Bituminous and soft coal mining	.8	.8	.2	2.0	410.2
Petroleum-natural gas production	1.1	1.1	1.0	—4.5	5.0
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining	.5	.6	.5	—0.8	18.9
Contract construction	7.4	8.2	5.4	—10.5	36.5
Contractors, building construction	3.0	3.5	2.2	—12.8	37.7
Contractors, other than building	1.7	1.9	1.1	—13.6	47.3
Contractors, special trade	2.7	2.8	2.1	—5.7	29.3
Total transportation and utilities	21.7	21.8	20.8	—0.5	4.6
Interstate railroads	13.8	13.8	13.3	0.2	3.5
Transportation except railroads	3.1	3.2	3.1	—1.6	3.5
Utilities including communication	4.8	4.8	4.4	—1.9	8.6
Total trade	35.5	35.6	33.4	—0.2	6.1
Wholesale trade	7.6	7.5	7.3	1.9	5.0
Retail trade	27.9	28.1	26.1	—0.8	6.4
General merchandise and apparel	5.6	5.6	5.4	—1.0	2.4
Food stores	3.8	3.9	3.5	—2.7	8.7
Eating and drinking establishments	7.2	7.2	6.5	0.1	10.9
Automotive and filling stations	4.8	4.9	4.6	—1.3	4.6
Retail trade not elsewhere classified	6.5	6.5	6.1	0.0	5.3
Finance, insurance and real estate	4.0	4.0	3.7	0.6	7.7
Total services and miscellaneous	18.5	18.6	17.4	—0.3	6.2
Hotels, rooming houses, camps, etc.	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.9
Personal services	2.4	2.4	2.2	0.0	12.3
Other (7)	13.7	13.8	12.9	—0.7	5.8
Government	27.5	27.5	26.7	0.0	3.0
Federal (8)	7.1	7.1	6.8	0.0	4.4
State and local	20.4	20.4	19.9	0.0	2.5

(1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.
(2) Preliminary estimates based on return from sample of 545 selected Montana establishments.
(3) Figures previously released have been revised on returns from 817 such establishments.
(4) Percent changes are based on actual rather than rounded figures.
(5) Includes fabricated metal products, machinery except electrical, furniture, stone and clay products.
(6) Includes apparel, chemicals, petroleum, and miscellaneous manufacturing products.
(7) Includes commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, nonprofit membership organizations and business not otherwise classified.
(8) Federal employment—first of the month.

Along the Hiring Line ---

(Continued from Page 2)

Wolf Point—(Active file 197; 20 women, 59 veterans) Increased hiring in service industries in February, but farm demand below normal. Military induction reducing labor supply to minor extent. Construction expected to resume after seasonal layoff in April.

Available Labor Supply One-Third Less

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storm and sub-zero temperatures. Instead of new hires there were layoffs. The setback is temporary. Return to normal weather conditions will be the signal for a gradual buildup of the present minimum force to a full crew of 400 or 500, tentatively set for April. Present supply and call-backs sufficient for early weeks of recruitment; later demands not predictable.

Substantial employment during April and May is expected, in view of contractor's determination to have the cement pouring safely above the high water line by early June. The contract is 30 per cent complete, and is on schedule.

Highway Jobs at Seasonal Low

Highway employment was at the seasonal minimum the last of February, consisting of 135 employees of contractors and 670 men on the maintenance crews of the state highway commission, virtually the same figures as reported for the preceding month. The same backlog of unfinished contracts await arrival of favorable weather--22 road jobs involving 200 miles of highway, and five bridges upon which work was suspended as the winter season developed.

Six road contracts for 47 miles of construction have been awarded but have not been begun, three bridge contracts in the same status. An underpass and three facility contracts are also contracted but not started.

COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET TRANSACTIONS IN FEBUARY 1951 AND FEBRUARY 1950

Employment Service Office	New Job Applicants				Jobseekers in File				Job Placements				Employer Visits		Job Openings		U. I. Claims Week 3-10	
	Feb. 1951		Feb. 1950		Feb. 1951		Feb. 1950		Feb. 1951		Feb. 1950							
	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
Anaconda	82	20	75	9	163	32	212	37	18	5	8	5	20	41	46	10	111	205
Billings	349	96	402	119	1,685	428	2,044	562	187	44	126	51	163	63	222	83	885	1,415
Bozeman	192	68	99	34	275	71	483	148	149	68	103	29	110	92	157	103	183	342
Butte	180	20	191	36	582	58	1,220	238	256	88	87	19	108	81	365	197	461	990
Cut Bank	53	18	102	26	231	55	297	127	18	7	9	2	40	12	24	22	199	252
Dillon	61	21	35	8	95	25	185	59	42	5	36	13	22	49	15	39	50	104
Forsyth	49	11	43	14	87	19	121	38	18	7	23	9	38	29	16	23	54	68
Fort Benton	21	8	17	3	34	7	75	27	18	9	25	15	38	37	17	18	35	56
Glasgow	112	32	44	16	403	107	413	158	47	12	27	5	40	44	56	46	163	266
Glendive	52	17	91	27	136	42	369	108	19	2	9	4	51	17	23	6	82	214
Great Falls	296	92	314	95	1,312	314	1,472	456	123	34	98	45	123	91	144	121	894	1,186
Hamilton	39	4	71	13	589	158	749	205	28	7	38	13	62	43	28	39	261	477
Havre	124	30	89	20	411	135	588	192	50	19	41	16	78	53	54	48	221	374
Helena	223	70	316	87	592	180	1,009	323	153	54	109	44	159	114	219	142	385	649
Kalispell	277	63	355	75	1,934	555	3,836	767	70	23	28	12	117	70	134	30	1,657	2,650
Lewistown	65	17	30	13	291	82	317	85	23	9	25	7	89	63	30	36	174	248
Libby	28	5	56	18	180	41	425	149	6	4	2	2	21	1	9	5	142	566
Livingston	214	58	116	40	349	81	387	115	98	41	61	17	56	36	86	58	146	217
Malta	39	6	39	7	165	34	180	57	30	11	6	4	42	13	30	11	106	155
Miles City	85	34	82	28	284	98	555	209	49	17	67	21	59	47	48	57	211	400
Missoula	201	60	207	49	1,082	300	1,432	402	87	20	60	15	112	96	75	60	702	1,091
Polson	41	2	42	10	385	85	607	186	7	0	6	3	21	14	11	13	308	445
*Red Lodge	....	....	31	6	....	....	283	108	....	....	9	3	....	6	....	12	....	254
Shelby	65	20	64	15	214	65	267	87	49	13	29	4	67	47	68	36	109	212
Sidney	60	14	60	6	397	99	413	106	53	11	30	10	93	60	34	42	244	263
Thomp. Falls	38	12	63	21	263	57	328	63	25	11	25	13	16	21	26	25	201	396
Wolf Point	41	8	75	20	197	59	289	88	15	4	2	0	24	19	17	12	152	276
TOTALS	2,987	806	3,142	826	12,336	3,187	18,852	5,173	1,638	525	1,092	381	1,769	1,266	1,954	1,335	8,136	13,771

*February, 1951, figures included with Billings.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in cooperation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)
(Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. 1951	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1950	Jan. 1951	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1950	Jan. 1951	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1950
All Manufacturing	$72.73	$75.18	$61.05	42.7	45.1	39.9	$1.70	$1.67	$1.53
Durable goods	78.44	78.03	59.45	45.2	45.1	39.4	1.74	1.73	1.51
Primary metals	73.86	74.33	57.74	44.2	44.6	39.7	1.67	1.67	1.45
(1) Nondurable goods	64.31	71.46	64.20	39.1	45.2	41.1	1.64	1.58	1.56
Food and kindred products	55.96	60.43	53.76	40.7	43.8	41.9	1.38	1.38	1.28
All Mining	77.51	78.73	60.28	42.1	42.7	37.7	1.84	1.84	1.60
Metal mining	76.04	77.49	59.07	42.9	43.5	38.5	1.77	1.78	1.53
Transportation and Utlities (except railrds.)	65.14	65.43	63.72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transportation (except railrds.)	70.65	71.73	71.06	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Utilities and communication	60.66	60.06	57.98	39.9	39.9	40.2	1.52	1.51	1.44

(1) Increase in average hourly earnings resulted from seasonal decrease in number of low-wage workers in food industry.

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